

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A laying device for laying a line element connected to a tool attached to a forward end of a robot arm, said robot arm provided at the forward end thereof with a rotation shaft member rotatable about a rotation axis thereof, said rotation shaft member having a hollow portion formed along the rotation axis, and a tool mount surface, formed at the forward end of said rotation shaft member, for the tool to be mounted thereon,

10 wherein said laying device comprises a relaying means for relaying an arm side section of the line element, extending through said hollow portion out of a lead-out opening formed on a side of said rotation shaft member, to a tool side section of the line element extending from the tool, so that a direction in which said relaying means connects the line element is substantially parallel to said tool mount surface and forms an angle other than 0° with regard to a radial direction perpendicular to the rotation axis.

15 2. The device according to claim 1, wherein said relaying means is provided in the vicinity of said lead-out opening.

20 3. The device according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of pairs of lead-out openings and associated relaying means.

25 4. The device according to claim 2, comprising a plurality of pairs of lead-out openings and associated relaying means.

5. The device according to claim 1, wherein said angle is 90° .

30 6. The device according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of relaying means arranged around the rotation axis.

35 7. The device according to claim 1, comprising relaying means arranged side by side in the direction of the rotation axis.

8. The device according to claim 1, further

comprising seal means for sealing a gap between the lead-out opening and a portion of the line element which passes through the lead-out opening.